



# Arizona Health Disparities Center

## *Purpose*

The Arizona Health Disparities Center serves as Arizona's central source\* of information and resources related to minority health and health disparities. The Center will provide leadership by building networks and community capacity to promote the health and wellness of all people in Arizona. Health disparities are avoidable differences in the incidence, prevalence, mortality, and burden of disease within specific population groups.

## *Need*

- In 2003 Blacks, American Indians\*, and Hispanics ranked worst in overall health status in Arizona.
- Hispanics comprise more than 25% of the states population.
- Thirty-five percent (35%) of Arizona residents belong to an ethnic or racial minority group.
- Arizona's uninsured population is disproportionately representative of minority groups.

## *Strategic Priorities*

*Priority 1:* Emerge as a visible, trusted, reliable Resource Center and Point-of-Contact for minority communities and other stakeholders and interested parties

*Priority 2:* Bring a minority health focus to the programs and policies of ADHS by serving as the resource within ADHS for improved planning and coordination of activities and programs

*Priority 3:* Improve minority health surveillance by developing systematic and consistent data collection and analysis

*Priority 4:* Partner with other entities dedicated to addressing minority health issues and work to improve access to health service

*Priority 5:* Identify and develop outreach strategies tailored to the needs of minority communities

*Priority 6:* Increase the capacity and diversity of the healthcare workforce

*Priority 7:* Increase the capacity of minority communities in the state for health promotion and disease prevention

*Priority 8:* Encourage and promote the use of cultural and linguistically appropriate services standards by health care providers and human services agencies

\*It is significant to note the unique sovereign status of the Indian Nations of Arizona comprised of 21 tribes having jurisdiction over approximately 30% of Arizona's land base and comprising 5% of the state's population. Working with these Indian Nations requires a government-to-government relationship. Per this unique situation and the unique health care delivery system for Indian people based on treaties with the US government, ADHS has created the position of Native American Liaison reporting directly to the ADHS Director.

## *Mission*

To promote and protect the health and well being of the minority and vulnerable populations of Arizona by enhancing the capacity of the public health system to effectively serve minority populations and reduce health disparities

## *Vision*

### **Health equity for all**

We envision a state where each person has equal opportunity to prevent and overcome disease and live a longer, healthier life.

## *Contact Us*

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